



“By faith the people crossed the sea” - Hebrews 11:29

Scripture: Read Hebrews 11: 30-31 / Joshua 2

- Read the account of Rahab in Joshua chapter 2. Also, note the genealogy of Rahab in the line of Jesus; Matthew 1:1-16. Finally, notice how James speaks of Rahab, in both faith and works (obedience to faith), in James 2:24-26.

- Rahab believed in what she had heard, and it seems that the understanding of God as the Creator and Almighty God, was foundational to her faith. Does this - Joshua 2:11 - appear similar to Deuteronomy 4:39, Acts 14:15, Acts 17:23?

- Read Joshua 2:3-6 and consider the deceptive nature of Rahab in this context. See also: Exodus 1:15-21 and Joshua 8:5-8, and compare to Rahab. We will discuss the ethical implications in the second *Equipping* question below.

Equipping

- “Faith is ... assurance ... conviction” (Hebrews 11:1) Apply that definition to Rahab’s faith and imagine her confidence when she says, “The Lord has given you the land” (Joshua 2:9). Do we find it difficult to claim God’s ultimate victory over ... this world? Our sin? Evil? Do we walk daily “by faith?”

- “I did not know where they are from ... nor ... do I know where they went” (Joshua 2:4-5). As descriptive text, not prescriptive text, no general ethical principles can be drawn directly from the passage. So, was this ok? Does God commend lying? Was Rahab’s allegiance with God and not the King, and that makes it ok? What of God’s forgiveness and Rahab’s heart?

- The Lord worked in Rahab as she was told of God by others. Consider how much Rahab knew (protection of Israel, God the Creator, the Red Sea), and how much else she likely had heard, what does that tell us of our witness to those who do not know God? If faith comes by hearing (Romans 10:17), what do we share?

*A*pplication

- Reflecting on the faith of Rahab, is there anything you want to address in your own faith walk? Are there opportunities to rely upon the Lord’s protection and deliverance? How could you go about experiencing this growth today?

Lord, may we face the dark and difficult situations of this world with a Rahab-like faith. In acknowledgement of our sin, may we know, with great assurance and conviction, that you renew and restore us. May we also know that you deliver and protect us as we make you known, the Creator and Almighty God of heaven and earth. Enable us to share your story through your Word and share your love through our story. By faith, we too, will not perish with those who are disobedient, and we are eternally grateful. Amen.